Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claim 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Please amend Claim 1 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for scene classification of a digital image comprising the steps of:

(a) extracting one or more pre-determined camera metadata tags from the digital image;

(b) obtaining an estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) the extracted camera metadata tags and not (2) image content features, thereby providing a metadata-based estimate;

(c) obtaining, separately from the metadata-based estimate, another estimate of image class of the digital image based on (1) image content features and not (2) the extracted camera metadata tags, thereby providing an image content-based estimate; and

(d) producing a final estimate of image class of the digital image based on a combination of the metadata-based estimate and the image content-based ~~estimate~~ estimate,

wherein the combination in step (d) is obtained by using a Bayesian network configured to produce the final estimate of image class with evidence missing.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the metadata extracted in step (a) includes one or more of exposure time, aperture, shutter speed, brightness value, subject distance and flash fired.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the image content features in step (c) include one or more of color, texture and semantic features.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing a computer program for causing a computer to implement the method as claimed in claim 1.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of applying a customized image enhancement procedure to the digital image in response to the final estimate of image class of the digital image.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the customized image enhancement procedure is color balancing and the customized image enhancement procedure includes retaining or boosting brilliant colors in images classified as sunset scenes and removing warm-colored cast from indoor images classified as tungsten-illuminated scenes.